

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 300196

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:MYOHN

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

ARA/LA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER

L/ARA:DGANTZ

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ARA:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 300196

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RD, TD, XL, US

SUBJECT: TRINIDADIAN INITIATIVE ON PUERTO RICO

REFERENCE: PORT OF SPAIN 2700

FOR CHARGE FROM ROGERS

1. I HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO
THAT HE IS DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN PURSUING THE IDEA OF
INFORMAL EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH A WILLIAMS REPRESENTATIVE.
MEETING COULD BE HELD EITHER IN SAN JUAN OR ELSEWHERE,
BUT GOVERNOR WOULD PREFER THE FORMER. THE GOVERNOR DID
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PAGE 02 STATE 300196

NOT PROPOSE ANY SPECIFIC DATES FOR A MEETING, BUT

INDICATED HIS FEELING THAT THE CONTACT SHOULD BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE GOVERNOR ALSO ASKED THAT HE RECEIVE IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING ANY CLARIFICATION WE CAN GET ON THE SPECIFICS OF WILLIAMS' IDEAS.

2. SUGGEST YOU CONVEY ABOVE TO WILLIAMS, NOTING THAT PREFERRED SCENARIO IS WILLIAMS' ORIGINAL SUGGESTION, I.E., INFORMAL AND CONFIDENTIAL MEETING IN SAN JUAN. IF WILLIAMS WISHES TO SUGGEST POSSIBLE DATES, WE WILL BE GLAD TO COMMUNICATE THEM TO THE GOVERNOR.

3. YOU SHOULD STRESS THAT IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL FOR THE COMMONWEALTH TO HAVE IN ADVANCE AS MANY SPECIFICS AS POSSIBLE ON THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF THE LINKAGES WITH CARICOM WHICH THE GOTT WISHES TO DISCUSS. IN THIS CONNECTION YOU SHOULD ALSO MAKE CLEAR TO PRIME MINISTER THAT DEPARTMENT INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN TALKS. FYI - AS YOU WILL APPRECIATE, ANY LINES OF ACTION ON PUERTO RICO'S PART WHICH EMERGE FROM THIS CONSULTATION MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH LEGAL AND FOREIGN POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES OF USG. END FYI. KISSINGER

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